Application No.: 09/613,707 Docket No.: HO-P02004US0

REMARKS

Claims 5, 7, 8 and 11 are pending in this application. Claims 5 and 11 stand allowed. Claim 7 has been canceled and claim 8 has been amended without prejudice and without acquiescence. Applicants assert that no new matter is added.

The issues outstanding in this application are as follows:

• Claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite.

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections and objections, and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal thereof in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse.

In order to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have canceled claim 7 and amended claim 8 without prejudice and without acquiescence. In light of the amendments, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. 10020885 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 9, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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